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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/065,205	09/25/2002	Johni Chan	73541	8162
22242	7590	11/01/2004	EXAMINER	
FITCH EVEN TABIN AND FLANNERY 120 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET SUITE 1600 CHICAGO, IL 60603-3406			PHAN, RAYMOND NGAN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2111	

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/065,205

Applicant(s)

CHAN ET AL.

Examiner

Raymond Phan

Art Unit

2111

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12022002.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1-18 are pending.
2. The Group and/or Art Unit location of your application in the PTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group Art Unit 2111.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

5. Claims 1, 5-9, 11, 13-16, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by White et al. (US No. 6,614,652).

In regard to claims 1, 11, White et al. disclose a bus slot conversion module comprising: a canister comprising a first frame bracket 140 and a front panel 160 wherein the first frame bracket is coupled with the front panel wherein the first frame bracket is configured to support a first peripheral 150, wherein the front panel is configured to couple with a front side of a chassis; and a conversion portion comprising a first PCB board 230 wherein the first PCB board is coupled to the first frame bracket and a first peripheral slot 232, the first PCB board comprising traces that interconnect the first peripheral slot and a bus slot connector coupled with the first PCB board (see figure 5, col. 4, line 10 through col. 5, line 21); wherein the first peripheral slot is configured to couple with the first peripheral (see figure 5, col. 4, lines 47-66); wherein the bus slot connector is configured to couple with a bus slot wherein the first peripheral slot comprises a different pin configuration (i.e. SCA configuration) than the bus slot (i.e. compact PCI configuration) (see figure 5, col. 4, line 10 through col. 5, line 20); and wherein the bus slot is coupled with a backplane, wherein the backplane is within the chassis (see col. 4, lines 10-35).

In regard to claims 5, 14, White et al. disclose wherein the at least one peripheral is a peripheral selected from the group consisting of a floppy drive, a disk drive, a compact disk drive, and a digital video disk (DVD) drive (see col. 1, line 59 through col. 2, line 16).

In regard to claim 6, White et al. disclose wherein the first peripheral slot is a small computer system interface (SCSI) slot (see col. 1, lines 32-39).

In regard to claims 7, 15, White et al. disclose wherein the small computer interface (SCSI) slot is a Single Connection Attachment (SCA) slot (see col. 4, line 67 through col. 5, line 5).

In regard to claims 8, 16, White et al. disclose wherein the bus slot connector is a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) slot connector (see col. 4, lines 20-35).

In regard to claim 9, White et al. disclose wherein the peripheral component interconnect (PCI) slot connector is a compact peripheral component interconnect slot connector (see col. 4, lines 20-35).

In regard to claim 13, White et al. disclose coupling a rear transition module to the bus slot wherein the rear transition unit comprises a rear peripheral slot (see col. 4, lines 46-67); and coupling the rear peripheral slot to a device wherein the device is external to chassis (see col. 4, lines 10-67).

In regard to claim 18, White et al. disclose means for housing at least one peripheral wherein the at least one peripheral is selected from the group consisting of a floppy drive, a disk drive, a compact disk drive, and a digital video disk (DVD) drive (see col. 1, line 59 through col. 2, line 16) wherein the means for housing is configured to detachably couple with a slot of a chassis wherein the means for housing houses a peripheral slot that is adapted to receive the at least one peripheral (see figures 4&5, col. 4, lines 10-67); and means for converting the peripheral slot to a bus slot wherein the peripheral slot is selected from the group consisting of a Single Connection Attachment (SCA) slot, and an integrated drive electronics (IDE) interface slot and the bus slot is a compact peripheral component interconnect slot connector; means for coupling the means for converting to the bus slot (see col. 4, line 10 through col. 5, line 21).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 2-4, 10, 12, 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over White et al. in view of Wong (US No. 5,790,374).

In regard to claims 2, 12, White et al. teach wherein the canister comprises a second frame bracket coupled with the front panel wherein the second frame bracket (i.e. 50, 60) is configured to support a second peripheral (see figure 1, col. 3, lines 20-38). But White et al. do not specifically wherein the conversion portion comprises a second PCB board coupled with the second frame bracket, wherein the second PCB board is coupled with a second peripheral slot configured to couple with the second peripheral; wherein the first PCB board and the second PCB board comprise traces that interconnect the second peripheral slot and the bus slot connector. However Wong discloses wherein the canister comprises a second frame bracket coupled with the front panel wherein the second frame bracket is configured to support a second peripheral; wherein the conversion portion comprises a second PCB board coupled with the second frame bracket (see figure 2, col. 2, line 64 through col. 3, line 11), wherein the second PCB board is coupled with a second peripheral slot configured to couple with the second peripheral; wherein the first PCB board and the second PCB board comprise traces that interconnect the second peripheral slot and the bus slot connector (see figure 3, col. 3, lines 11-29). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Wong within the system of White et al. because it would reduce the use of cabling and other electrical connectors.

In regard to claim 3, Wong discloses wherein the first PCB board and the second PCB board are substantially parallel and wherein the first and second frame brackets are interposed between the first and second PCB boards and configured to form a first and second peripheral docks (see col. 3, lines 11-29). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Wong within the system of White et al. because it would reduce the use of cabling and other electrical connectors.

In regard to claim 4, Wong discloses wherein the first PCB board and the second PCB board are interconnected by a transverse coupling wherein the second peripheral is interconnected with the bus slot connector via the transverse coupling (see figure 3, col. 3, lines 11-29). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Wong within the system of White et al. because it would reduce the use of cabling and other electrical connectors.

In regard to claims 10, 17, even though the teachings of White et al. or Wong do not specifically disclose wherein the peripheral slot is an integrated drive electronics (IDE) interface slot, however one skilled in the art would have understood that they can choose to have different type or format of interface slot to fulfill their design or implementation.

Conclusion

8. All claims are rejected.

9. The prior arts made of record and not relied upon are considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Young et al. (US No. 6,018,456) disclose an enclosure for removable computer peripheral equipment.

Paul (US No. 6,460,098) discloses a low voltage differential SCSI bus interconnect system having repeater means.

Lee (US No. 6,115,765) discloses a method of swapping auxiliary storage devices using suspend mode.

Kaczeus, Sr. et al. (US No. 5,483,419) disclose a hot-swappable multi-cartridge docking module.

Seo et al. (US No. 6,044,423) disclose an identification of a swappable device in a portable computer.

Emberty et al. (US No. 6,600,703) disclose a magazine for a plurality of removable hard disk drives.

Moon et al. (US Pub No. 2002/0144044) disclose a removable disk storage array emulating tape library having backup and archive capability.

Golka et al. (US No. 6,507,882) disclose an alternate use of computer storage device bays.

Behl et al. (US No. 6,193,339) disclose a docking adapter for memory storage devices.

Deters (US No. 5,227,957) discloses a modular computer system with passive backplane.

Art Unit: 2111

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Raymond Phan, whose telephone number is (703) 306-2756. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30AM- 4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Primary, Paul Myers can be reached on (703) 305-9656 or via e-mail addressed to paul.myers@uspto.gov. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [raymond.phan@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



PAUL R. MYERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Raymond Phan

10/21/04